

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for printing a secured print job that has one or more bio signatures associated therewith, the system comprising:

5 a printer for outputting print jobs in hardcopy form; and
a biometric identification device associated with said printer for inputting bio signatures to said printer,

wherein said printer will not print said secured print job unless a bio signature is entered with said biometric identification device that matches a bio signature associated with said secured print job.

2. The system of claim 1, further comprising a host computer for generating said secured print job, said host computer associating said one or more bio signatures with said print job and transmitting said print job to said printer.

3. The system of claim 2, further comprising a second biometric identification device associated with said host computer for generating said bio signature associated with said secured print job.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein said printer is a fax machine.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein said bio signature is an electronic representation of a user's fingerprint.

25 6. The system of claim 1, wherein said printer further comprises:
a display device for listing pending secured print jobs; and
a user input device for selecting a secured print job to output.

7. The system of claim 2, wherein:

said host computer and said printer are connected via a computer network;

and

said one or more bio signatures associated with said secured print job are

retrieved by said host computer from said computer network.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein said printer denies access to

configuration controls of said printer unless an authorized bio signature matching a

bio signature stored in said computer is input using said biometric identification

device.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein said printer tracks usage of said

printer using bio signatures input with said biometric identification device.

10. A printer for printing a secured print job that has one or more bio

signatures associated therewith, the printer comprising:

a printing mechanism for outputting print jobs in hardcopy form; and

a biometric identification device associated with said printer for inputting

bio signatures to said printer,

wherein said printing mechanism will not print said secured print job unless

a bio signature is entered with said biometric identification device that matches a

bio signatures associated with said secured print job.

11. A method of printing a secured print job that has one or more bio

signatures associated therewith, the method comprising printing said secured print

job with a printer only when a bio signature is entered into said printer with a

biometric identification device associated with said printer that matches said a bio

signature associated with said secured print job.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising generating said secured print job by associating said one or more bio signatures with said print job and transmitting said print job to said printer.

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13. The method of claim 11, wherein said bio signature is an electronic representation of a user's fingerprint.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising:
listing pending secured print jobs on a display device of said printer; and
selecting a secured print job to output from said listing.

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15. The method of claim 12, wherein said generating of said secured print job is performed with a host computer connected to a computer network; said method further comprising retrieving said one or more bio signatures associated with said secured print job from said computer network.

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16. The method of claim 11, further comprising denying access to configuration controls of said printer unless an authorized bio signature matching a bio signature stored in said computer is input using said biometric identification device.

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17. The method of claim 11, further comprising tracking usage of said printer using bio signatures input with said biometric identification device.

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18. Computer-readable instructions stored on a medium for storing computer readable instructions, said instructions causing a printer to print a secured print job only when a bio signature is entered into said printer with a

biometric identification device associated with said printer that matches said a bio signature associated with said secured print job.

5 19. The computer-readable instructions of claim 18, wherein said instructions are partially incorporated in a printer driver of a host computer and cause said host computer to generate said secured print job by associating said one or more bio signatures with said print job and transmitting said print job to said printer.

10 20. The computer-readable instructions of claim 18, wherein said instructions further cause said printer to:

list pending secured print jobs on a display device of said printer; and
accept a user selection of a secured print job from said listing.

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